

Message

From: Shea, Valois [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=A4217A71307D4429B7BDC7C80EB40C7D-SHEA, VALOIS]
Sent: 7/13/2017 9:29:02 PM
To: **Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP)**
Subject: RE: No Uranium in treaty territory

Thank you for emailing me your comments on the draft UIC Dewey-Burdock permitting actions. I have added your email to the list of public comments received. I have also added you to my contact list to keep you informed on future EPA activities related to these proposed actions.

Thank you!

Valois

Valois Shea
U.S. EPA Region 8
MailCode: 8WP-SUI
1595 Wynkoop Street
Denver, CO 80202-1129
Phone: (303) 312-6276
Fax: (303) 312-6741
Email: shea.valois@epa.gov

From: **Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP)**
Sent: Monday, June 19, 2017 9:40 AM
To: Shea, Valois <Shea.Valois@epa.gov>
Subject: No Uranium in treaty territory

Dear Ms Valois,

The EPA is proposing draft permits for in-situ recovery (ISR) of uranium using deep injection wells within the Inyan Kara group of aquifers (southern Black Hills region of Custer and Fall River counties).

Part of this proposed draft is to exempt the project from the Safe Drinking Water Act. Such an exemption would have to be in place for ISR activities within the aquifer to take place.

As a retired environmental sciences teacher I must emphatically warn against granting such status for a number of compelling reasons.

1) Even with regulatory approvals that the aquifer would be 'protected', there are no guarantees that the process would not contaminate the aquifer. Companies that undertake these operations are known to cut corners and costs in order to assure their profitability. With EPA's diminished funding I fear there will be little or no oversight of the process. Any contamination of the aquifer by uranium or its radioactive daughters should be considered permanent. We cannot take that chance.

2) This region faces extremes in weather now worsened by climate change and such extremes could hamper the safety and efficacy of the operation. Safe water is a necessity to future generations given the hazards they will face from rapid and abrupt climate change. We cannot take this chance of contamination for their sake.

3) The EPA is obligated under the National Historic Preservation Act to consult with the Tribes to identify the potential effects of the project on traditional cultural places, historic, and sacred sites. As you are probably aware, this current administration is openly dismissive and even hostile towards the interests of America's indigenous peoples. We cannot expect there will be a good faith reckoning of the Tribe's concerns.

Therefore, for all these concerns, and more, I must register my opposition to the proposal for ISR activities in the area. Please deny the permit.

Yours,

Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP)

science teacher (ret), concerned father, citizen